



Utah Interpreter Program: Certification Process Update

The Utah Interpreter Program (UIP) and the Interpreter Certification Board (ICB) are excited to share information about the transition timeline of the new and revised exams outlined in the [March 2017 Special Announcement](#).

[\(To view the new announcement in ASL click here\)](#)

UPDATES TO THE NOVICE AND PROFESSIONAL LEVEL EXAMS:

- ✓ **All performance components must be passed in one attempt to be awarded certification (new to the Professional Level.)** Current policy allows each component to be passed independently within a one-year timeframe
- ✓ **Revised interactive scenarios in the performance exam.** The exam will be updated to better reflect real-world scenarios such as interpreting between multiple Deaf and hearing consumers.
- ✓ **New Teaming with a Certified Deaf Interpreter component (new to the Novice and Professional Level.)** This will test the performance of a hearing interpreter working alongside a Certified Deaf Interpreter. This is becoming more common in practice and should be measured.
- ✓ **Candidates have up to four attempts** to sit for the performance exam per year.
- ✓ **Exam criteria and assessment have been thoroughly reviewed and revised** to reflect current performance expectations.



NEW CERTIFICATIONS:

State Certified Deaf Interpreters (CDI):

A new state exam will be offered for Deaf Interpreter candidates starting July 2019. The national Deaf Interpreter exam is undergoing redevelopment and is not being offered at this time. Due to Utah law requiring certification by all interpreters working with the Deaf and hard of hearing community, and because using CDIs has become best practice in various situations, the UIP developed a state level Deaf Interpreter certification option.



- ✓ **Candidates have up to four attempts** to sit for the performance exam per year.
- ✓ **The Deaf Interpreter Knowledge exam** is designed and developed to be offered completely in ASL. Candidates will view and respond to all exam questions in ASL.
- ✓ **The Deaf Interpreter Performance exam** is based on a job task analysis of the type of situations common to the work of Deaf Interpreters in the field.





OVERALL TRANSITION TIMELINE

January 2019:
Phase-out
of current
Professional
Level exam
begins

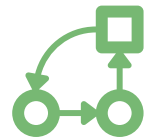
July 2019:
Revised Novice
Level exam begins

July 2019:
New Deaf Interpreter
exam begins

December 2019:
Last month to
complete current
Professional Level
components

January 2020:
Revised
Professional
Level exam
begins

PROFESSIONAL LEVEL CANDIDATES NEED TO PLAN AHEAD



Any candidate who takes the current Professional Level exam...

BEFORE JANUARY 2019 and passed at least one component will have a full 12 months from the date of the exam to pass all components in the current exam format.

IN JANUARY 2019 and passed at least one component will have until December 2019 to pass any remaining components in the current exam format.

AFTER JANUARY 2019 and passed at least one component, will have until December testing dates to pass any remaining components. This means candidates will have less than 12 months to pass all remaining components. (e.g. A candidate who takes the current exam in July 2019 and passes two components now has only five months to pass the remaining three components by December 2019.)

STARTING JANUARY 1, 2020 and has not completely passed all the components of the current Professional Level exam will be required to transition to the new performance exam and pass all four components in one attempt. Note: Any passed components from the current exam will remain active if the candidate is awaiting pending results from exams taken prior to January 1, 2020.



Questions or comments? Contact uip@utah.gov

[A full list of FAQs can be found at UIP.utah.gov](http://UIP.utah.gov)